Attorney Docket No: 2006636-0050 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sulayman DIB-HAJJ et Applicant:

Examiner:

Michael PAK

Serial No.:

09/856,274

al.

Art Unit:

1646

Filing Date:

May 18, 2001

Confirmation No.:

5193

Title:

Effects of GDNF and NGF on Sodium Channels in DRG Neurons

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

NOTICE OF APPEAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.191

Applicant hereby appeals the rejection of pending claims 20, 22-31, 35, 36, and 40-44 of the above-referenced application. A final Office Action was mailed on December 29, 2008. The Office Action set forth a Shortened Statutory Period of three (3) months for reply, i.e., to March 29, 2009. March 29, 2009 falls on a Sunday. Therefore, this Notice is timely filed on Monday, March 30, 2009. A credit card payment form authorizing payment of the Appeal fee in the amount of \$270.00 is enclosed in view of the small entity status of the application.

Please charge any other fees associated with this filing, or apply any credits, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

/Brenda Herschbach Jarrell/ Brenda Herschbach Jarrell, Ph.D Registration No. 39,223

Dated: March 30, 2009 CHOATE, HALL & STEWART LLP PATENT DEPARTMENT Two International Place Boston, MA 02110

bjarrell@choate.com

Telephone: 617-248-5175 Facsimile: 617-502-5002